

NOTICE OF A DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE
PROPOSED INTERSTATE 85 (I-85) IMPROVEMENTS FROM
INTERSTATE 485 (I-485) to N.C. 73 (DAVIDSON HIGHWAY)

TIP Project No. I-3803B

Mecklenburg and Cabarrus County

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold a Pre-Hearing Open House and Design Public Hearing on Thursday, October 1, 2009 at the Northwest Cabarrus High School located at 5130 NW Cabarrus Drive, Concord.

NCDOT representatives will be available at the Pre-Hearing Open House between the hours of 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to answer questions and receive comments regarding the proposed project. The Pre-Hearing Open House will be held in the Cafeteria. The opportunity to submit written comments or questions will also be provided. Interested citizens may attend at any time during the above hours.

A formal presentation will begin at 7 p.m. in the Auditorium. The presentation will consist of an explanation of the proposed location, design, the state-federal relationship, and right of way and relocation requirements and procedures. Citizens will have the opportunity to comment or ask questions. The presentation and comments will be recorded and a transcript will be prepared.

NCDOT proposes to reconstruct and widen Interstate 85 to an eight-lane roadway from I-485 in Charlotte in Mecklenburg County to N.C. 73 (Davidson Highway) in Cabarrus County. The project will include construction of auxiliary lanes from I-485 to Concord Mills Boulevard/Bruton Smith Boulevard (State Road 2894) and from Kannapolis Parkway/George Liles Parkway (S.R. 1430) to N.C. 73, reconstruction of the existing interchanges at Poplar Tent Road (S.R. 1394) and N.C. 73, removal and replacement of existing pavement, and the realignment of Pitts School Road (S.R. 1305) in the vicinity of Poplar Tent Road. Poplar Tent Road and N.C. 73 will also be widened to four-lane divided roadways. In addition, a new two-lane roadway will be constructed to link Rustic Lane with International Drive near the I-85 interchange with N.C. 73.

The purpose of the project is to provide relief from present and future congestion and provide a higher level of efficiency on I-85. Additional right-of-way acquisition and the relocation of homes and businesses will be required for this project.

A map displaying the location and design of the project and a copy of the Environmental Assessment are available for public review at the NCDOT Resident Engineer's Office located at 12033-C East Independence Blvd., Matthews; Mecklenburg-Union Metropolitan Planning Organization, 600 E. Fourth St., 8th Floor, Charlotte; City of Concord – Alfred M. Brown Operations Center, 850 Warren C Coleman Blvd.; and the City of Kannapolis, 246 Oak Ave.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment are also available for review at the University City Regional Library at 301 East W. T. Harris Boulevard, Charlotte; Charles A. Cannon Memorial Library, 27 Union St. North, Concord; and the Charles A. Cannon Memorial Library, 850 Mountain St., Kannapolis.

Anyone desiring additional information may contact Jamille Robbins, NCDOT-Human Environment Unit at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598, by phone at (919) 431-6500, or via e-mail at jarobbins@ncdot.gov. Additional material may be submitted until Oct. 15, 2009.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who want to participate in this hearing. Anyone requiring special services should contact Robbins as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.